

[10-50%] about 20 to about 50% wt starch,

[0-40%] 0 to about 40% wt fat or oil,

[8-50%] about 8 to about 50% wt polyhydric alcohol,

[5-25%] sugar, and

[5-40%] at least about 5% wt. Water, [and

1-5% salt]

said carrier having an  $A_w$  of about 0.60 to about 0.75, and a soft and chewy texture, and said  $A_w$  is variable dependent on the properties of the additive.

12. (once amended) A method of making a carrier for an additive for use in an oral administration of [the] a therapeutically effective amount of an additive in discrete dosage form, comprising the steps of:

a) forming a matrix by mixing

[10-50%] about 10 to about 50% wt starch,

[0-40%] 0 to about 40% wt fat or oil,

[10-50%] about 10 to about 50% wt polyhydric alcohol,

[5-25%] sugar, and

[5-20%] at least about 5% wt water [and

1-5% salt]

adjusting the relative amounts of at least the polyhydric alcohol and water to [control the] provide an  $A_w$  of said carrier [to adjust the level of moisture in the carrier to be] at a level not inimical to the additive.

Please add new claims 26-38:

26. (once amended) A dosage form carrier for the oral administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical additive to mammals comprising: a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical additive and a carrier comprising: